

**Descriptions for photographs (62) donated by Willis F. Marshall, San Jose CA.** I served in Viet Nam from Oct67 to Oct68 as a member of the 525<sup>th</sup> MI Group and was assigned to MACV Advisory Team 70, based at Gosney Compound, Lam Son, Binh Duong Province in III Corps as advisors to the 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division HQ, Army of the Republic of Viet Nam. I was trained as an intelligence analyst at Ft. Holabird, MD and had 47 weeks of Vietnamese language training at DLI, Biggs Field, TX. I was assigned to the G-2 section as an interrogator, interpreter, translator, and intelligence analyst; my rank was Sp5. My Vietnamese counterparts were Sergeants Mai Cao Vo and Tran Van Nguyen. I was regular Army, and I volunteered to serve in Viet Nam.

1. General William Westmoreland, Commander of US forces in Viet Nam, arrives to meet the officers and men of Advisory Team 70, Dec '67. With Gen. Westmoreland is Brig. Gen. Pham Quoc Thuan, commander of the 5<sup>th</sup> Division and the 32<sup>nd</sup> Tactical Area.
2. General Westmoreland shakes hands with Maj. Richard Clark, the G-2 Advisor for Team 70 (my C.O.) To Major Clark's left is Maj. Charles F. Brewer (I think), the PolWar advisor for Team 70.
3. General Westmoreland shakes hands with Maj. Brewer.
4. Soldiers of the ARVN 5<sup>th</sup> Division on parade on the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Division, March 1968.
5. General Pham Quoc Thuan, 5<sup>th</sup> Division Commander, saluting while the national anthem of South Viet Nam is played by the band, March 1968
6. Major Richard W. Clark, G-2 Advisor for Team 70 and my C.O.
7. ARVN Major who was the 5<sup>th</sup> Division G-2 C.O. inspects captured NVA weapons, April68.
8. Actor Fess Parker visits Team 70, May68. From left to right are Sp4 Ron Schultz, 1Lt. Robert A. Petrero, Sp4 Tom Bacon, Sp4 Thomas Boyle, Me, Fess Parker, Sp4 Rod Smith, Sp4 Gordon Farrant, Sp4, Craig McGee, and Sp5 Lou Amici of Team 70 G-2.
9. Me with a captured NVA RPG-7.

10. Same as #9. ARVN soldiers are members of the 5<sup>th</sup> Division "Recondo" Platoon. Their advisor was 1Lt. Anthony Callan.
11. Me, sitting on an 81mm mortar pit outside my "hooch" next to the FAC aircraft parking area.
12. 1Lt. Anthony Callan being decorated with the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross by Gen Thuan, May 68. 1Lt. Callan received this award for bravery under fire during the Feb68 Tet Offensive. To 1Lt. Callan's left is 1Lt. Robert Petrero. I am on the end.
13. Me, receiving my Gallantry Cross from Gen. Thuan.
14. Me, shaking hands with Gen. Thuan.
15. Me and my good friends and counterparts, Sgt. Mai Cao Vo and Sgt. Tran Van Nguyen. We worked together on dozens of interrogations—both in the field and at our base, picked up prisoners in the field during Allied operations, and analyzed captured NVA and VC documents and weapons.
16. Sgt. Mai Cao Vo with his trusty Honda 50 outside the 5<sup>th</sup> Division interrogation building.
17. Sp4 Thomas Bacon of Indiana leaning against Maj. Clark's jeep outside the luxurious G-2 shack.
18. ARVN Sgts. Huynh Le and Mai Cao Vo, me, and an NVA prisoner who surrendered during the Tet Offensive, Feb68.
19. Me talking to the NVA soldier.
20. Me with a captured RPG-7. Safety is on and grenade is not seated!
21. ARVN Sgt. Tran Van Nguyen, one of my counterparts.
22. ARVN soldiers assigned to the IPW building or the Recondo Platoon.
23. Other 5<sup>th</sup> Division ARVN soldiers with whom I served.

24. **Sp4 Thomas Bacon with one of our tactical maps.**
25. **SFC Andreas Andersen, our G-2 NCO. A good man and a top soldier. SFC Andersen passed away in 2001.**
26. **Some of the Team 70 G-2 intel analysts and clerks at an ARVN G-2 party (our *only* party) in June 1968. Standing, left to right: Sp4 Dan Sheehan, Sp4 Gordon Farrant, Sp4 Thomas Boyle; seated are Sp4 Ron Schultz and Sp4 Rodney Smith.**
27. **Me in hooch 10 with my M79 40mm grenade launcher and M16. I also had a BAR (from WWI!) and an M-1 carbine.**
28. **Looking north above the village of Lam Son, Binh Duong Province in III Corps 20 miles north of Saigon. In the center is the ARVN 5<sup>th</sup> Division base, which was built by the Japanese during WWII to serve as a prison. The group of lighter buildings at left center is Gosney Compound, the home of Advisory team 70. This location is about four miles east of the provincial capital of Phu Cuong. The mission of the 5<sup>th</sup> Division was basically to prevent an NVA attack on Saigon down highway 13. Division HQ moved north to Lai Khe in 1970 when the US 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division moved out.**
29. **The northwest corner of the 5<sup>th</sup> Division base contained the interrogation building where I spent a lot of time (the building with the shiny roof). We had rare electricity and no plumbing. To the left is our dirt runway for FAC planes and supply aircraft.**
30. **A closer view of the interrogation building. We lost our roof and about 20 good ARVN soldiers in an explosion in April 1968. An ARVN truck loaded with captured NVA weapons, mines, 82mm mortar shells and 122mm rockets exploded as it pulled up to the building. Sgt. Vo and I narrowly escaped with our lives but lost many of our friends.**
- 30A. **The aftermath of the explosion, caused by either sabotage or carelessness. The Recondo Platoon building next door was also heavily damaged.**
- 30B. **Same as 30A.**

31. Another aerial view of the 5<sup>th</sup> Division base, looking north toward Cambodia. The NVA 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> divisions usually operated between here and the border.
32. The interrogation building where I spent a lot of time. Built by the Japanese as a prison, it had barbed wire ceilings and inward-facing gun slits. The center of the building had holding cells for keeping prisoners until they could be transferred to Combined Interrogation Centers in Saigon or Bien Hoa.
33. The parade grounds at 5<sup>th</sup> Division HQ. The two chateau-type buildings were built by the French. The one on the right was used by field-grade officers assigned to Team 70. Between the flagpoles there was a plaque listing the names of 45 Team 70 members who had been killed in action. Almost all of these heroes were advisors assigned to one of the three combat regiments in the division (7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>) The regimental advisors had a KIA rate of 28% from 1965 through 1968.
34. ARVN decorations for Christmas, 1967.
35. The 5<sup>th</sup> Division motto (borrowed from our 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division) "No mission too difficult, No sacrifice too great, Duty above all."
36. The main gate of Gosney Compound, Advisory Team 70. The compound was named on 7Jul65 in honor of Major Durward Dean Gosney, who was killed when his helicopter was shot down on 7Oct64. The mess hall is on the left, and the officers' club is on the right in front of the water tower.
37. Gosney Compound map and legend.
38. My hooch, built by the French.
39. A view of most of the compound. We had power as long as the diesel generator worked.
40. The Advisory Team 70 mess hall. In the distance at left is an old French bunker in which we stood guard duty.

41. Several FAC planes were based at our compound and were protected by our dirt berm and barrels of concrete and dirt. These planes were occasional enemy mortar targets.
42. Sp4 Gordon Farrant on guard duty in the old French bunker.
43. Sp4 Dan Sheehan going on guard duty at 1800 hours. Sp5s and below stood six hours of guard duty every other night in three hour shifts.
44. Sp4 Richard Gilliam of Washington, DC on guard duty at his bunker at the end of the runway.
45. Sp4 Dan Sheehan taking a break during bunker maintenance.
46. The big US 1st Air Cavalry base at Phu Loi, just east of us.
47. The US airfield at Vung Tau, on the coast south of Saigon.
48. US soldiers at the helicopter pad shack at Vung Tau, Sept. 1968.
49. The bodies of American soldiers are loaded on a C-130 at Vung Tau, Sept. 1968
50. MACV Headquarters at Bien Hoa, 1968.
51. NVA weapons captured by 5<sup>th</sup> Division soldiers, April 1968. Pictured are 122mm rocket warheads, 122mm rocket propellant, a recoilless rifle, and some sapper's torpedoes.
52. Captured NVA weapons on a truck for public display, including two Chinese .50 cal anti-aircraft guns. The banner says, "Surrender (chieu hoi) the road to peace."
53. Chinese-made .50 cal tripod-mounted anti-aircraft gun.
54. Another view of photo #51 showing a 122mm rocket launcher tube.
55. More captured NVA weapons. Included are a Russian-made gunner's quadrant, a mine, torpedoes, AK-47s, RPG-7s, and one Russian RPD machine gun.

56. Captured weapons for public display. The banner loosely translates to "The soldiers of the 5<sup>th</sup> Division and 32<sup>nd</sup> Tactical Area will advance to victory."
57. A truck full of captured NVA RPGs. The banner says, "The Viet Cong's defeat is certain, our victory is sure."
58. A truck of NVA Russian-made 7.62mm "RPD" machine guns.
59. Buddhist temple, Phu Cuong City.
60. Public market, Phu Cuong City. We would sometimes buy produce and bread here. Not the most sanitary place.
61. "Houseboats" on the Saigon River at Phu Cuong.
62. A Regional Forces guard post on Highway 13 north of Phu Cuong. The VC had attacked this post the night before and had blown up a small bridge, and Sgt. Vo and I went up to talk to local people to see if we could find any evidence of what VC unit had done it.
63. Civic action: "Gadsden", Viet Nam--a housing project for refugees funded by people in Gadsden, Alabama with the support of Brig. Gen. Robert J. Koch.
64. An ARVN 5<sup>th</sup> Division tank stands guard on Highway 13 north of Phu Cuong.
65. A Bailey bridge is put in place over a creek on Hwy 13 after a VC attack destroyed a bridge. (See also photo 62)
66. The Catholic church in Phu Cuong.
67. A street scene in Vung Tau, on the coast. The US forces had an R&R center here which I was lucky to visit for a day.
68. Vietnamese children and their mothers on the sea wall at Vung Tau.
69. Boys fishing on the beach at Vung Tau.
70. The harbor at Vung Tau.

71. Fishing boats at Vung Tau.
72. A hamlet near Xom Phuoc My off Hwy 13 north of Phu Cuong.
73. A Grumman OV-1 Mohawk flown by the 73<sup>rd</sup> Aviation Company (Air Surveillance) based at Vung Tau. The OV-1 was a high-tech recon aircraft, some of which were fitted with infra-red sensors. The Viet Cong called them "Whispering Death."
74. A Cessna O-1 "Bird Dog" FAC plane taxis for takeoff at Gosney Compound in April 1968.
75. A couple of Bell AH-1 Cobras at our chopper pad in March 1968.
76. A row of Boeing-Vertol ACH-47 "Chinooks" at 1<sup>st</sup> Air Cav's base at Phu Loi, March 1968.
77. A Canadian Air Force "Caribou" takes off from Gosney Compound in March, 1968.
78. A Soviet gunner's quadrant from a captured NVA weapons cache.
79. Detail of photo 78, showing Russian writing.
80. ARVN Sgt. Mai Cao Vo hard at work in the interrogation building.
81. Me in my quarters in an off-duty moment.
82. ARVN 5<sup>th</sup> Division color guard with Gosney Compound gate in background.
83. Me, with an RPG-7 rocket grenade from an NVA cache.
84. Sp5 Lou Amici preparing intel reports at Team 70 G-2, April '68.
85. Bunker D-5 at Gosney Compound, where I spent 18-24 hours a week on night guard duty. Our bunkers were also home to an impressive variety of wildlife, insects, and spiders.
86. Two ARVN 5<sup>th</sup> Division soldiers who were assigned to G-2.
87. ARVN Sgt. Tran Van Nguyen, one of my counterparts.

88. One of the Vietnamese ladies who did our laundry.
89. The 5th Division band in January 1968.
90. ARVN soldiers of the 5<sup>th</sup> Division Recondo Platoon enjoying a relaxing game of volleyball in Dec. 1967.
91. Sp5 Tom Bacon, Sgt. Mai Cao Vo, and me at the G-2 shack, May 1968.
92. *Going home!* On the bus for Tan Son Nhut airbase near Saigon. I flew to Travis AFB in California and was processed out of the US Army at the Oakland Personnel Center on 21Oct68.

[ **Note:** ARVN General Pham Quoc Thuan, shown in photos 1, 5, 12, 13, and 14, later became commander of III Corps after the US withdrawal in 1973. He planned and commanded several successful operations and campaigns against the North Vietnamese forces, in spite of the shameful reduction in logistical support from the US (We did not provide the promised ammunition, weapons, medical equipment, and—especially—replacement aircraft budgeted for the RVNAF). One of his successful campaigns, ignored by US media, was the four-month campaign to capture Base 82—in the “Iron Triangle” area-- from July to October, 1974. The ARVN 5<sup>th</sup> Division, supported by elements of the ARVN 25<sup>th</sup> Division and RVAF sorties, and displaying impressive tenacity, bravery, and execution, finally succeeded in capturing this base and inflicting heavy casualties on the 141<sup>st</sup> Regiment/7th NVA Division and the 95C Regiment/9th NVA Division. For a detailed account of this and other engagements throughout Viet Nam in 1973-75, see Captain William E. Le Gro’s lengthy essay at <http://libraryautomation.com/nymas/Vietnamfulltext2.html>, or refer publication CMH 90-29 (1985) of the US Army Center of Military History.]